

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-25 NEA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-13 SSO-00 DPW-01

DRC-01 AID-20 /175 W

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P 201649Z SEP 73

FM USDEL JEC PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 136

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L USDEL JEC PARIS 24764

1. SUMMARY: ONCE AGAIN THERE WAS NO SUBSTANTATIVE DISCUSSION OF SVN INTERNAL MATTERS. PRESENTATIONS CONTRASTED MARKEDLY AS VIEN (GVN) TOOK A MODERATE STANCE URGING REVITALIZATION OF THE TALKS THROUGH CONSTRUCTIVE NEGOTIATIONS WHILE HIEU (PRG) ATTEMPTED TO REBUT US/GVN PROTESTS ABOUT DRV AIRFIELD CONSTRUCTION IN SVN. HIEU'S STATEMENT INCLUDED EXTENSIVE CHARGES OF US DIRECTION OF THE WAR THROUGH THE DAO IN SAIGON AND MASSIVE ARMS DELIVERIES. THE TALKS RECONVENE SEPTEMBER 27. END SUMMARY.

2. DEPUTY PRIMIN VIEN REVIEWED GVN PROCEDURAL INITIATIVES PRESENTED AT THE CONFERENCE IN PRECEDING WEEKS. HE REMINDED THE OTHER SIDE THAT THE GVN HAD PROPOSED "LESS FORMAL" SESSIONS (I.E. EXECUTIVE SESSIONS), PRIVATE MEETINGS, AND WORKING-GROUP DISCUSSIONS, TO RESCUE THE TALKS FROM THE "STERILE POLEMICS" INTO WHICH THEY HAVE DEGENERATED. VIEN OFFERED ANEW THE GVN SUBSTANTIVE PROPOSALS OF APRIL 25 AND JULY 25 CULMINATING IN GENERAL ELECTIONS. REAFFIRMING GVN WISHES TO UNDERTAKE CONSTRUCTIVE NEGOTIATIONS, VIEN PUT THE ONUS ON THE PRG FOR THE CONFERENCE STALEMATE AND PERPETUATION OF THE "BLOODY CONFLICT" BY TURNING THE TALKS INTO A

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MERE PROPAGANDA FORUM.

3. HIEU, PRG "MINISTER OF STATE," RESPONDED AT LENGTH TO RECENT US/GVN PROTESTS AGAINST DRV AIRFIELD CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY IN THE SOUTH, PROTESTS HE ATTEMPTED TO DISMISS AS "HYSTERICAL STATEMENTS." CHARGING THAT THE US HAD DELIVERED OVER 30,000 TONS OF WAR MATERIEL TO THE RVNAF VIA DANANG AND CAM RANH LAST MARCH, AND, BY REFERENCE TO AN AFP DISPATCH DATED MARCH 21, ALLEGING THAT THE DEPT PRESS SPOKESMAN HAD ACKNOWLEDGED US DELIVERY OF ARMS TO THE GVN SINCE THE AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED, HIEU ACCUSED THE GVN OF HAVING CONTINUOUSLY EXPANDED ITS ARMED FORCES AND WAR MATERIEL IN RECENT MONTHS. BY AUGUST 28 THE RVNAF HAD COMMITTED "OVER 175,000" VIOLATIONS OF THE JANUARY AGREEMENT.

4. GVN INTENSIFIED "PACIFICATION" PROGRAMS WERE SUBJECTED TO PROLONGED VERBAL ABUSE BY HIEU. SOME 900,000 PERSONS HAD ALLEGEDLY BEEN FORCED INTO RELOCATION CENTERS. (HIEU REFERRED TO CRITICISM BY SENATOR CRANSTON OF AID PUBLIC SAFETY ACTIVITIES IN SVN).

5. HIEU DENOUNCED THE US FOR ALLEGEDLY CLINGING TO ITS "DREAM OF DOMINATION." EMBASSY SAIGON STILL DIRECTED GVN ACTIVITIES, CHIEFLY THROUGH A MILITARY HIGH COMMAND STRUCTURE CONSISTING OF DAO'S "20,000" ADVISORS AND MILITARY PERSONNEL.

6. IN CLOSING, HIEU QUOTED PARTS OF THE PRG SEPTEMBER 12 STATEMENT UPHOLDING FULL PRG DE JURE AND DE FACTO AUTHORITY OVER ITS ZONES. (IN SO DOING HIEU TERMED THE PRG A "DEMOCRATIC AUTHORITY ELECTED BY THE CONGRESS OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SVN POPULATION," A DESCRIPTION NOT USED HERETOFORE).

7. THERE WAS NO SIGNIFICANT IMPROMPTU DISCUSSION. IT WAS AGREED TO RECONVENE SEPTEMBER 27.

8. THE POST-SESSION PRESS CONFERENCE OF PRG SPOKESMAN SAU CONTINUED THE ATTEMPTED REBUTTAL CONCERNING DRV AIRBASE CONSTRUCTION BY ACCUSING THE GVN OF USING TENS

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OF EX-US BASES. SAU CRITICIZED RECENT GVN THREATS TO RETALIATE AGAINST THE DRV-BUILT BASES AND THE "UNPRECEDENTED BARBARISM" OF CURRENT ARVN OPERATIONS IN QUANG NAM AND BINH DINH. (WE UNDERSTAND THAT TWO AMERICANS DESCRIBED AS "DESERTERS" ATTENDED THE PRESS CONFERENCE AND WERE INTRODUCED TO SAU AFTERWARDS. THEIR PRESENCE WAS NOT ANNOUNCED AND THE PURPOSE OF THEIR VISIT TO PARIS IS AS YET UNKNOWN TO US).

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## Message Attributes

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